

GHAJAR EXHIBIT 62

12/5/2024

Richard Kadrey, et al. v. Meta Platforms, Inc. Sy Choudhury 30(b)(6)
Highly Confidential - Subject to Protective Order

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

RICHARD KADREY, et al.,)

)

Individual and)

Representative)

Plaintiffs,)

)

v.)

)

META PLATFORMS, INC.,)

)

Defendant.)

)

Case No. 3:23-cv-03417-VC

** CONFIDENTIAL PURSUANT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER **

Videotaped Deposition of meta Platforms, Inc.

by and through its corporate designee

SY CHOUDHURY

San Francisco, California

Thursday, December 5, 2024

Reported Stenographically by

Michael P. Hensley, RDR, CSR No. 14114

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1 provide.

2 THE WITNESS: There's only privileged
3 information in that meeting, and so I'm not able to
4 talk further about that.

5 BY ATTORNEY PRITT:

6 Q. Okay. So to clarify, it's Meta's
7 testimony that there were no business reasons for
8 deciding to pause the licensing process for
9 acquiring fiction books, nonfiction books, and
10 coding data for use in Meta's LLMs in early
11 April 2023; is that correct?

12 ATTORNEY HARTNETT: Objection to the form.
13 Misstates his testimony.

14 I -- if you can answer as to whether there
15 are business reasons that don't entail conveying
16 legal advice, you may answer. If not, I instruct
17 you not to answer.

18 THE WITNESS: The -- although this is not
19 comprehensive, the coding and textbook categories do
20 not -- do not apply to the one, I'll say, business
21 reason.

22 I'd like to point out that the -- in the

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1 fiction category, we quickly learned from the
2 business development team that most of the
3 publishers we were talking to, they themselves were
4 representing that they did not have, actually, the
5 rights to license the data to us. And so it would
6 take a long time to engage with all their authors.

7 BY ATTORNEY PRITT:

8 Q. So was timing and the ability to obtain
9 licenses for the use of fiction books to use as data
10 for Meta's LLMs a business reason for why Meta
11 decided to pause it's licensing efforts for those
12 books in early April 2023?

13 A. It was one of the considerations, yes.

14 Q. Were there any other business
15 considerations for deciding to pause licensing
16 efforts for fiction books to use as data for Meta's
17 LLMs in early April 2023?

18 ATTORNEY HARTNETT: And you could answer
19 to the extent it doesn't reveal attorney-client
20 privileged advice.

21 A. I would say yes in all three of the
22 categories that I've mentioned. Another business

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1 reason is the very slow uptake in engagement and
2 interest from the different content partners that we
3 had reached out to or tried to reach out to, to
4 actually engage in a meaningful conversation.

5 So that was another reason, which has
6 nothing to do with speed. It's just volume and
7 willingness to engage.

8 There were some that we, of course, had
9 good productive conversations with, but it was very
10 few.

11 Q. And which partners that you're referring
12 to were unwilling to engage?

13 A. We -- we send out slew of emails to --
14 slew of companies: [REDACTED] and -- I mean there was a
15 whole list.

16 I don't recall the entire list, but I
17 remember we had made a long list from initially
18 scouring the Internet of top publishers, et cetera,
19 and we didn't get contact and feedback from -- from
20 a lot of our cold call outreaches to try to
21 establish contact.

22 There were a few, like [REDACTED], that did,

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1 CERTIFICATE OF SHORTHAND REPORTER

2

3 I, Michael P. Hensley, Registered Diplomate

4 Reporter for the State of California, CSR No. 14114,

5 the officer before whom the foregoing deposition was

6 taken, do hereby certify that the foregoing

7 transcript is a true and correct record of the

8 testimony given; that said testimony was taken by me

9 stenographically and thereafter reduced to

10 typewriting under my direction; that reading and

11 signing was not requested; and that I am neither

12 counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the

13 parties to this case and have no interest, financial

14 or otherwise, in its outcome.

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Michael P. Hensley, CSR, RDR